

Tom Horne
Superintendent

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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SUPERINTENDENT TOM HORNE & MCDONALD'S® ANNOUNCE PLANS TO HONOR ARIZONA TEACHERS IN RECOGNITION OF TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

MCDONALD'S TO PROVIDE FREE FRUIT & WALNUT PREMIUM SALADS TO 50,000 ARIZONA TEACHERS

PHOENIX (Tuesday, May 3, 2005) – Arizona Schools Chief Tom Horne and McDonald's Owner/Operators of Arizona announced today plans to honor teachers statewide with a special healthy meal in recognition of Teacher Appreciation Week, May 2 - 6.

A leading advocate of legislation requiring schools to offer healthier food products, Superintendent Horne will support McDonald's offer to provide free Fruit & Walnut Salads to 50,000 Arizona teachers statewide. A coupon entitling teachers to a free McDonald's Fruit & Walnut Premium Salad will be distributed via the Arizona Department of Education and Arizona Education Association May electronic newsletters. Teachers will be able to download the coupon and redeem it for a free Fruit & Walnut Premium Salad at any Arizona McDonald's restaurant.

To kick off Teacher Appreciation Week in Arizona, Superintendent Horne & McDonald's served Fruit & Walnut Salads to more than 600 students and teachers at Kenilworth Elementary School in Phoenix. Kenilworth Elementary School was recently given the 2004-2005 "A+ School Excellence Award" by the Arizona Education Foundation.

"One of the most important things we can do for the education of our children is to raise the professional status of our teachers. Numerous studies show that the primary determinate of a student's academic progress is whether or not a student has a highly qualified teacher. If we all agree that teachers deserve a high professional status, it will help attract and retain highly qualified individuals in teaching," said Superintendent Horne.

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“Arizona McDonald’s Owner/Operators appreciate our teachers hard work and dedication in educating our youth and we hope they enjoy a Fruit & Walnut Salad with our compliments,” said Steve Lanini, an Arizona McDonald’s franchisee. “The Fruit & Walnut Premium Salad is a fresh and wholesome menu option, and demonstrates McDonald’s continued commitment to encourage customers to lead balanced, active lifestyles through food choice and physical activity.”

McDonald’s new Fruit & Walnut Premium Salad includes premium, fresh fruit, apple slices and red seedless grapes, with a small side of low-fat yogurt and a choice of candied Diamond walnuts to sprinkle on top. Customers can choose to eat it for any mealtime: breakfast, lunch, dinner or a snack at a suggested price of \$2.99 (prices vary by restaurant.)

About Arizona McDonald’s Owner/Operators

Investing in education is a major initiative for Arizona McDonald’s Owner/Operators. They have given more than \$850,000 in scholarships since 1995 to Arizona Hispanic and African American high school seniors. McDonald’s has raised more than \$100,000 for Arizona schools through its McTeacher’s night fundraising events and have given \$50,000 as a major sponsor of the Governor’s Book Project, a program which fosters literacy throughout Arizona schools.

McDonald’s is the leading global foodservice retailer with more than 30,000 local restaurants serving more than 50 million people in more than 119 countries each day. Approximately 70 percent of McDonald’s restaurants worldwide are owned and operated by independent, local businessmen and women.

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